

Appln. No. 09/756,036
Amendment dated November 14, 2005
Reply to Office Action of August 12, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The August 12, 2005 Office Action and the Examiner's comments have been carefully considered. In response, a claim is added and remarks are set forth below in a sincere effort to place the present application in form for allowance. The amendments are supported by the application as originally filed. Therefore, no new matter is added.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner's indication that claims 1, 2 and 4-10 are allowed is acknowledged.

PRIOR ART REJECTION

In the Office Action claim 3 is rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over USP 5,872,807 (Booth et al.). However, it appears from the Examiner's reasons for rejecting claim 3 set forth on pages 2-3 of the Office Action that the Examiner intended to reject claim 3 as being unpatentable over Booth et al. in view of USP 6,134,375 (Naganawa et al.). Clarification of the Examiner's rejection in the next Patent Office communication is respectfully requested.

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The rejection of claim 3 is respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth below.

In item #3 on page 3 of the Office Action (second and third paragraphs), the Examiner states:

Nor does Booth expressly teach a resetting section for resetting the spreading clock generator according to an indexing signal.

Naganawa discloses an image signal recording apparatus that includes resetting section for resetting the spreading clock generator according to an indexing signal (col. 5, lines 44-53).

Column 5, lines 44-53 of Naganawa do not teach a resetting section as recited in the claim. Instead, this portion of Naganawa discloses:

An analog processor 11, which operates in synchronism with the output operation of the image taking unit 10, performs analog signal processing, including sampling, holding, gamma correction, and outputs an image signal 11 according to a predetermined format. For instance, in a sampling and holding operation, an image signal 10 wherein voltage repeatedly rises/falls to a reset level and to a signal level in synchronism with the output operation of the image sensor, is processed so that voltages at a signal level are solely extracted. Further, in a gamma correction operation, the extracted voltage at a signal level is rendered to non-linear conversion for correction of the difference between the actual luminance of a reproduced image picture and the luminance thereof perceived by human sight.

While this section of Naganawa recites a "reset level," there is no mention at all of the spreading clock generator or resetting section. It is entirely unclear to the Applicants as to how the referenced portion of Naganawa discloses/teaches/

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suggests a resetting section and/or the spreading clock generator recited in claim 3. If the Examiner continues to maintain that this section of Naganawa discloses a spreading clock generator and resetting section, the Examiner is respectfully requested to point out where there is specific support for this rejection.

Contrary to the Examiner's statement, Naganawa et al. do not disclose a resetting section for resetting the spreading clock generator according to an indexing signal. In addition, Naganawa et al. do not disclose "the spreading clock generator" nor the "spreading clock" set forth in subparagraph (e) of claim 3.

Paragraph (f) of claim 3 recites a resetting section for resetting the spreading clock generator according to the index signal which functions on the condition of the presence of subparagraph (e) using the spreading clock. Thus, paragraph (f) does not exist without paragraph (e).

According to the features specifically recited in claim 3, "because the reset is conducted according to the index signal, in each line of the main scanning, the same spreading manner can always be taken, and the good image writing can be conducted." (See page 40, lines 5-8).

Naganawa et al. disclose at column 1, line 51 - column 2, line 12 a reset clock generator 2r. However, Naganawa et al. do not disclose, teach or suggest the spreading clock generator and

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resetting section limitations set forth in paragraphs (e) and/or (f) of claim 3.

That is, the present claimed invention as defined by claim 3 is patentable over the cited references because the references do not disclose, teach or suggest:

a spreading clock generator for spreading a band of a reference clock which is synchronized with a predetermined frequency, and generating spreading clock signals according to a predetermined modulation profile; and/or

a resetting section for resetting the spreading clock generator according to the index signal,

wherein the writing control circuit is driven by the spreading clock signals. (See claim 3, lines 11-18.)

In view of the foregoing, claim 3 is patentable over the cited references under 35 USC 102 as well as 35 USC 103.

NEW CLAIM

New claim 12 is added to the present application. New claim 12 is supported by the application as originally filed (see page 25, lines 18-21, inter alia), is dependent on claim 3 and is patentable over the cited references in view of its dependence on claim 3 and because the references do not disclose, teach or suggest each of the limitations set forth in claim 12.

In view of all of the foregoing, claims 1-12 are in form for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

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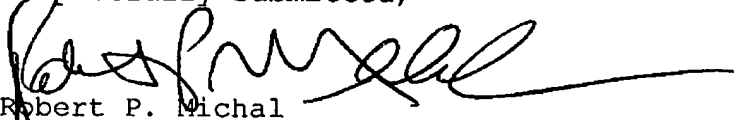
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Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to point out where there is support for a contrary view.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert P. Michal
Reg. No. 35,614

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman & Chick, P.C.
220 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10001-7708
Tel. (212) 319-4900
Fax (212) 319-5101
RPM/ms